

**To:** Trulove, Whitney[Trulove.Whitney@epa.gov]  
**From:** Wood, MelanieL  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 8:56:33 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Update on August 12th Water Quality Sampling Results

Hi Whitney –

Nice update.

I looked at the website link and a couple suggestions from someone not working close to the situation:

- 1) Make it clear on the water quality graphs when the release was by adding that to the bottom dates
- 2) Add to the graph some pre-event water quality data – the graph did not seem to show that we were at pre-event levels as it appeared that all of the data happened during the event

Thanks,

Melanie

**From:** Trulove, Whitney **On Behalf Of** R8OCPI  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** R8 All Employee; OECA Denver  
**Cc:** R8OCPI  
**Subject:** Update on August 12th Water Quality Sampling Results

In our effort to keep all Region 8 personnel informed on the latest information related to the Gold King Mine release response, below is updated information on sampling along the Animas River.

Water quality samples were collected beginning Aug. 5, 2015, to assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury.

Analysis now shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colorado area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 5 to Aug. 9, 2015.

EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in Colorado to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

Additional information can be found on our website:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/epa-statement-colorado-data-gold-king-mine-release>

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In addition, EPA has established a toll-free number (844-607-9700) for residents in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona, and the Navajo Nation who have been impacted by the Gold King Mine release. This allows them to provide their contact information and be called back with information. The number is available for people to speak to someone in English, Spanish, and Navajo.